

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Senator Wise moved the following:

Senate Substitute for Amendment (452404) to Amendment (with title amendment)

After line 435

insert:

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Section 8. Section 1012.985, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1012.985 Regional Statewide system for inservice professional development academies.-

(1) The intent of this section is to facilitate establish a statewide system of professional development that provides a wide range of targeted inservice training to teachers, managers, and administrative personnel which is designed to upgrade skills

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and knowledge needed to attain reach world class standards in education. The system shall consist of a network of professional development academies that in each region of the state which are operated in partnership with area business partners to develop and deliver high-quality training programs for purchased by school districts. Each regional professional development academy must The academies shall be established to meet the human resource development needs of professional educators, schools, and school districts and shall. Funds appropriated for the initiation of professional development academies shall be allocated by the Commissioner of Education, unless otherwise provided in an appropriations act. To be eligible for startup funds, the academy must:

- (a) Support Be established by the collaborative efforts of one or more district school boards, members of the business community, and the postsecondary educational institutions which may award college credits for courses taught at the academy.
- (b) Demonstrate the capacity to provide effective training to improve teaching skills in the areas of elementary reading and mathematics, the use of instructional technology, high school algebra, and classroom management, and to deliver such training using face-to-face, distance learning, and individualized computer-based delivery systems.
- (c) Propose a plan for responding in an effective and timely manner to the professional development needs of teachers, managers, administrative personnel, schools, and school districts relating to improving student achievement and meeting state and local education goals.
 - (b) (d) Demonstrate the ability to Provide high-quality

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trainers and training and, appropriate followup and coaching for all participants, and support school personnel in increasing student achievement in positively impacting student performance.

- (c) (e) Be operated under contract with its public partners. Contracts between district school boards and each regional professional development academy must require:
- 1. The academy's independent board of directors to be responsible for the prudent use of all public and private funds and to ensure that those funds are used in accordance with applicable laws, bylaws, and contractual agreements.
- 2. The academy to retain proper documentation evidencing that district school board funds provided to the academy are expended for authorized purposes as prescribed in the contract and that services to district school boards are commensurate with the funds paid to the academy for those services. The academy's records must be available for inspection by the district school board's internal auditor and the Auditor General.
- 3. Each district school board to approve any participation by the academy in the district's programs or services, including use of the district's facilities, furnishings, equipment, other chattels, personnel, or services.
- 4. The academy to provide an annual report of its activities and expenditures to its independent board of directors and each party to the contract.
- 5. The academy to be annually audited by an independent certified public accountant retained and paid for by the academy and to provide a copy of the audit report to each party to the contract.

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(d) Be and governed by an independent board of directors, which should include at least one district school superintendent and one district school board chair from the participating school districts, the president of the collective bargaining unit that represents the majority of the region's teachers, and at least three individuals who are not employees or elected or appointed officials of the participating school districts. Regional educational consortia as defined in s. 1001.451 satisfy the requirements of this paragraph.

(f) Be financed during the first year of operation by an equal or greater match from private funding sources and demonstrate the ability to be self-supporting within 1 year after opening through fees for services, grants, or private contributions. Regional educational consortia as defined in s. 1001.451 which serve rural areas of critical economic concern are exempt from the funding match required by this paragraph.

(g) Own or lease a facility that can be used to deliver training onsite and through distance learning and other technology-based delivery systems. The participating district school boards may lease a site or facility to the academy for a nominal fee and may pay all or part of the costs of renovating a facility to accommodate the academy. The academy is responsible for all operational, maintenance, and repair costs.

(e) (h) Provide professional development services for the participating school districts as specified in the contract and may provide professional development services to other school districts, private schools, and individuals on a fee-forservices basis.

(2) Upon compliance with the requirements for the first



year of operation in paragraph (1)(f), A regional professional development academy may:

- (a) May Receive funds from the Department of Education or as provided in the General Appropriations Act for the purpose of developing programs, expanding services, assessing inservice training and professional development, or other programs that are consistent with the mission of the academy and the needs of the state and region; and
- (b) Receive, hold, invest, and administer property and any moneys acquired from private, local, state, and federal sources, as well as technical and professional income generated or derived from activities of the academy, for the benefit of the academy and the fulfillment of its mission. Income generated by school district personnel at the academy from trademarks, copyrights, and patents shall be shared between the academy and the district school board as outlined in the contract.
- (b) Is not, by virtue of providing services to one or more school districts, a component of any school district or any governmental unit to which the regional professional development academy provides services.

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122 ========= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ============ 123 And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 471

125 and insert:

> relating to schools receiving a school grade; amending s. 1012.985, F.S.; providing for regional academies rather than a statewide system of organization; providing duties of regional professional development academies; deleting provisions that

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require academies to meet certain criteria in order to receive start-up funds; specifying requirements for contracts between district school boards and academies; deleting requirements relating to first-year funding and academy financial selfsufficiency in future years; authorizing the academies to administer property and moneys received from various sources; requiring that income generated from certain activities be shared between the academy and the district school board; providing an